

BNL ALARA CENTER**Processes and Practices Related to Occupational Dose**

ID: 58

VALVE AND VALVE PACKING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Keywords: VALVE PACKING IMPROVEMENTS; COMPONENT RELIABILITY; PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE; VALVE CONTAMINATION; PACKING; LEAKAGE; VALVES

Description:

Primary valve maintenance and repair has resulted in on the average 20 man-rem at PWRs and about 15 man-rem at BWRs. Replacement or repair of valve packing due to leakage on routine preventive maintenance accounts for a large percentage of this dose. By using improved packing materials such as live-load packing or ribbon packing the need for repair and maintenance and its associated dose can be reduced.

References and Selected Abstracts:

1. "EPRI Report Identifies Valve Stem Packing Fixes," Nuclear News, September 1988, pp. 46-47 and 50. (Available from Research Reports Center, Box 50490, Palo Alto, CA 94303.)
2. Rittenhouse, R.C., "Valves: Keeping the Critical Link Healthy," Power Engineering, January 1989, pp. 20-25.
3. Foster, M. "Valve Stem Packing Improvements," EPRI Report NP-5697, May 1988. (Available from Research Reports Center, Box 50490, Palo Alto, CA 94303.)